

Valuable information on large format lenses.

Lenses and applications

Even in the age of digital photography, the professional camera remains the dominant tool for advertising, still-life and building photographs:

The large formats of conventional photography still offer unsurpassed sharpness and an incomparable abundance of detail.

Professional cameras allow perspective corrections and deliberate inclinations of the plane of best sharpness ("Scheimpflug plane") which is not possible with fixed 35 mm or medium format cameras (or only with great restrictions).

Digital cameras combine the technology and options of professional photography with the demands of digital technology.

Rodenstock's range "Lenses for Professional Photography" therefore includes different lens types which are available in graduated focal length versions to meet practical requirements.

The standard lens for conventional professional photography should provide a medium to large image angle together with high speed and image quality. These demands are met by the **Apo-Sironar** available in the two versions "N" and "S". As a standard lens, it is used with focal length which roughly corresponds to the diagonal of the format.

The **Apo-Sironar-Digital** offers optimum performance in professional digital photography and is used as a standard lens.

For the large image scales of between around 1:5 and 2:1, there is the special lens **Apo-Macro-Sironar**. This is characterized by high speed and a wide image circle.

The **Apo-Ronar** offers superb image reproduction from a scale of 1:1 to infinity. This is the classical process lens, but it has also more than proved its value as a "long focal length" lens with clear quality advantages over teleconstructions.

Whenever small rooms, wide spaces or short taking distances (architecture) make large field angles necessary, the lenses of first choice are the **Apo-Grandagon** and the **Grandagon-N** with field angles of up to 120°.

A special feature lens is the **Imagon**, a soft focus lens for dream-like portraits or also for romantic landscapes.

What the designation "Apo" means for the quality of your pictures.

The quality designation "Apo" comes from graphic arts technology and is the abbreviation for "apochromatically corrected". In graphic arts this means that the lens will provide three identical colour separation negatives.

Generally, however, an Apo lens is understood to be one which has exceptionally good colour correction – which has nothing to do with the colour reproduction, but everything with the elimination of irritating colour fringes. Colour fringing is a typical problem of lenses with a long focal length. The fringes increase with the image field and are strongest at the edge of the picture.

The prefix "Apo" on Rodenstock lenses stands for the best possible correction of chromatic error and guarantees photos without colour fringes.

How the image circle influences the movement range of your camera.

In order to make optimum use of the decisive advantage of a large format camera, i. e. its wide range of movements, you need lenses with a large image circle and first-class image reproduction quality right up to the edge of the image circle.

The most important camera movement is the parallel adjustment to eliminate or reduce converging verticals. Especially for architectural photographs or product shots it may be necessary to reduce convergence considerably. For this, the lens must have an image circle far beyond the size of the taking format. On the following double page is a chart on the right-hand side which shows the recommended adjustments for a focusing distance of infinity and a working aperture of $f/22$. For shorter distances (e. g. for product shots), the image circle diameter will increase so that even larger adjustments are required.



Valuable information on large format lenses.

Depth of field versus diffraction – The optimum working aperture.

Strictly speaking, sharp focusing is only possible in the subject plane; in front of or behind this plane, the sharpness is less. The area in which unsharpness is not yet recognizable as such is called "depth of field".

The longer the focal length of a lens, the shallower the depth of field; but the more the lens is stopped down, the larger this again becomes.

Because large taking formats require long focal lengths, large format lenses have to be stopped down quite a lot in order to provide sufficient depth of field.

A certain amount of stopping down is also normally required to suppress the residual aberration which can never be corrected 100%.

But at low apertures diffraction – an unavoidable physical effect – increases so that the sharpness is visibly reduced. For this reason, you should never stop down any more than is absolutely necessary.

Under optimum circumstances most large format lenses should be stopped down to $f/22$; smaller apertures may be permissible with larger formats (see chart on the right). If a great deal of depth of field is required, the aperture can be stopped down by one more number without any substantial loss in the image sharpness.

Basic data for the comparison of the different film sizes.

When comparing different taking formats, the different focal lengths, the different depths of field and the different diffraction must be taken into account if the comparison is to be correct.

Because the different taking formats have different "width to height" ratios, the corresponding format diagonal is used as the reference value.

The chart shows focal lengths (from super wide-angle to long focal length) which have corresponding diagonal field angles and which have been rounded to standard values in comparison with standard focal lengths for 35 mm photography.

The last column shows the corresponding optimum aperture values with regard to depth of field and diffraction; the reference value here is aperture $f/5.6$ for 35 mm. These recommended values should only be exceeded in the interest of best possible sharpness when the depth of field is much more important than good sharpness.

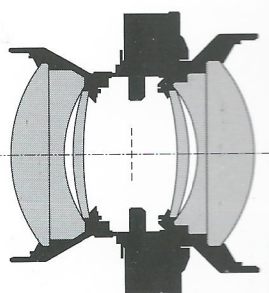
Format	Analogue focal lengths [mm]							Best Aperture
	Short			Normal		Long		
24x36 mm/ 3x3 cm Matrix	18	24	28	35	50	85	135	5.6
6x6 cm/ 6x6 cm Matrix	30	40	50	65	90	150	250	11
6x7 cm/ 6 cm Line Scan	35	50	60	75	100	180	280	11–16
6x9 cm	45	55	65	105	135	210	360	16
9x12 cm/4x5"	55	75	90	115	180	300	480	16–22
13x18 cm/5x7"	90	115	155	200	240	420	600	22–32
18x24 cm/8x10"	115	155	200	240	360	600	900	32–45

The right lens for every application.

Apo-Sironar-N, the photographer's "workhorse".



Apo-Sironar-N 300 mm f/5.6
in the Prontor Professional 3
self-cocking shutter



Optical design: 6 elements/4 groups

The Apo-Sironar-N is the all-round lens for the professional photographer. Typical applications: Product shots of every kind, industrial subjects, landscape and city photography.

The Apo-Sironar-N equally provides an ideal longer focus lens with smaller formats. Monorail view cameras permit almost unlimited extension (especially with extension bellows). As a result optically problematic tele lens designs are no longer needed; their short construction length only provides advantages for fixed cameras. For example, focal lengths of 210 to 300 mm have proved particularly useful for product shots with 9 x 12 cm (4 x 5") cameras. The six-element Apo-Sironar-N bears the "Apo" designation without restriction despite its very advantageous price. The field angle is 72°.

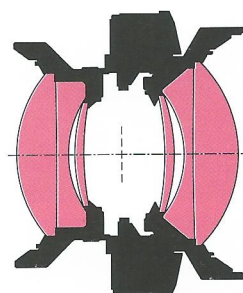
The image circle diameter exceeds the diagonal of the recommended format by around 45 %; this gives the photographer considerable edge quality together with abundant shift and swing possibilities.

Note: The lower maximum aperture of 6.8 for the 360 mm lens is due to the restricted maximum opening of the size 3 shutter.

Apo-Sironar-N	Recommended film size
100 mm f/5.6	6x9 cm
135 mm f/5.6	9x12 cm / 4x5"
150 mm f/5.6	9x12 cm / 4x5"
180 mm f/5.6	9x12 cm / 4x5"
210 mm f/5.6	13x18 cm / 5x7"
240 mm f/5.6	13x18 cm / 5x7"
300 mm f/5.6	18x24 cm / 8x10"
360 mm f/6.8	18x24 cm / 8x10"



Apo-Sironar-S 240 mm f/5.6
in the Copal 3 shutter



Optical design: 6 elements/4 groups

Apo-Sironar-S, the ultimate lens with extensive adjustment reserves.

The Apo-Sironar-S is a lens for universal use which has been modified to provide the highest image reproduction quality. Like the Apo-Sironar-N its applications are practically limitless. Its special strengths can be seen when complex, fine structures in the adjustment range have to be reproduced.

Its field angle has been increased to 75° and so permit even more generous shifts. Therefore is the Apo-Sironar-S also the ideal standard lens for applications which require particularly large parallel shifts to correct the perspective. For instance, the Apo-Sironar-S 150 mm f/5.6 in the format 9 x 12 cm permits up to 10 mm more vertical or lateral shift than the equivalent Apo-Sironar-N lens.

As a result of the elimination of the secondary spectrum thanks to the use of ED glass materials with anomalous dispersion (ED = extra low dispersion), no visible colour fringing occurs even at edges with extreme contrast. In addition, the light fall-off towards the edge has been reduced for a more uniform illumination.

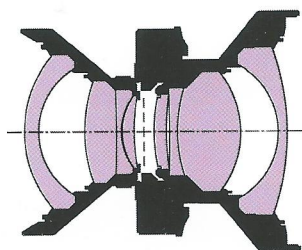
Thanks to this high optical performance in the edges of the field, the six-element Apo-Sironar-S can use f-stop 16 as its working aperture – a special advantage for outdoor shots due to the shorter exposure time this allows.

Apo-Sironar-S	Recommended film size
135 mm f/5.6	9x12 cm / 4x5"
150 mm f/5.6	9x12 cm / 4x5"
180 mm f/5.6	9x12 cm / 4x5"
210 mm f/5.6	13x18 cm / 5x7"
240 mm f/5.6	13x18 cm / 5x7"
300 mm f/5.6	18x24 cm / 8x10"
360 mm f/6.8	18x24 cm / 8x10"

**Apo-Sironar-Digital,
optimized for electronic
professional
photography**



Apo-Sironar-Digital 90 mm f/5.6
in shutter Copal 0



Optical design: 8 elements/6 groups

The Apo-Sironar-Digital is the ideal starter lens for the world of digital photography in the studio. Optimized for digital photography, the Apo-Sironar-Digital provides exceptional imaging performance.

With an image circle of 140 mm, the Apo-Sironar-Digital always allows sufficient movements for the current digital camera backs. These are much smaller than the classical film sizes in professional photography. As a result, the lenses for digital photography must also provide a much finer resolution which, in turn, can only be achieved with larger working diaphragms. The Apo-Sironar-Digital is therefore designed for use from a working stop of 8.

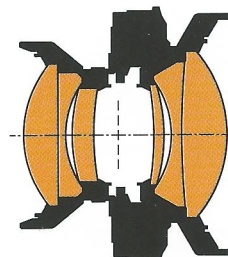
The lens features include apochromatic correction, freedom from distortion, high resolution and uniform illumination.

The focal length of 90 mm allows favorable taking distances and angles especially in the studio: converging verticals can be corrected easily.

In addition, the Apo-Sironar-Digital can be used without restriction as a universal lens for film sizes up to 6 x 12 cm in conventional photography.



Apo-Macro-Sironar 180 mm f/5.6
in Copal 1 shutter



Optical design: 6 elements/4 groups

**Apo-Macro-Sironar,
lenses for great
little pictures.**

In the near area – at scales of around 1:1, the quality of lenses optimised for larger distances falls visibly from the usual standard of performance. And it is here that the Apo-Macro-Sironar-N come into their own for imaging scales of 1:5 and greater.

Incidentally, imaging scales of 1:5 or larger are required even in conventional table-top photography or studio photography: for example, 1:3 at a film size of 13 x 18 cm means the full format image reproduction of a lens of approximately 40 x 50 cm in size.

The Apo-Macro-Sironar offers excellent imaging quality in conjunction with the wide freedom of movement required for large-format photography.

The Apo-Macro-Sironar provides exceptional results without any color fringes at a scale range from 1:5 to 2:1 without any need to adjust the scale individually. The focal lengths of 120 and 180 mm allow work with most cameras without any extra tube extension even at a scale of 2:1.

Apo-Sironar-Digital	Recommended scanarea
90 mm f/5.6	up to 6x12 cm

Apo-Macro-Sironar	Recommended film size
120 mm f/5.6	9x12 cm / 4x5"
180 mm f/5.6	13x18 cm / 5x7"

Technical Data of the Lenses

			Shutters (smallest aperture)										Mechanical Data					
Lens	Max. recommended film size	Image circle Ø at 1:∞ and f/22	Copal 0	Compur 0	Prontor prof. 01 S	Copal 1	Compur 1	Prontor prof. 1 S	Copal 3	Compur 3	Prontor prof. 3	Standard mount	Push-on mount diameter	Filter thread	Rear mount diameter	Optical register 1:∞	Overall length	Weight incl. Copal/Compur shutter
Apo-Sironar-N																		
100 mm f/5.6	6× 9 cm	151 mm	45	45	45								42 mm	M 40.5×0.5	31.5 mm	100 mm	38 mm	170 g
135 mm f/5.6	9×12 cm/4×5"	200 mm	64	45	64								42 mm	M 40.5×0.5	40.5 mm	130 mm	43.5 mm	210 g
150 mm f/5.6	9×12 cm/4×5"	214 mm	64	45	64								51 mm	M 49×0.75	42 mm	142 mm	51 mm	220 g
180 mm f/5.6	13×18 cm/5×7"	262 mm				64	64	64					60 mm	M 58×0.75	51 mm	173 mm	57 mm	400 g
210 mm f/5.6	13×18 cm/5×7"	301 mm				64	64	64					70 mm	M 67×0.75	60 mm	200 mm	66 mm	440 g
240 mm f/5.6	13×18 cm/5×7"	350 mm							64	64	64		80 mm	M 77×0.75	70 mm	231 mm	77 mm	780 g
300 mm f/5.6	18×24 cm/8×10"	425 mm							64	64	64		90 mm	M 86×1	80 mm	282 mm	94 mm	1040 g
360 mm f/6.8	18×24 cm/8×10"	435 mm							64	64	64		110 mm	M 105×1	80 mm	333 mm	116.5 mm	1560 g
Apo-Sironar-S																		
135 mm f/5.6	9×12 cm/4×5"	208 mm	64	45	64								51 mm	M 49×0.75	48 mm	132 mm	47.5 mm	240 g
150 mm f/5.6	9×12 cm/4×5"	231 mm	64	45	64								51 mm	M 49×0.75	51 mm	147 mm	51.5 mm	250 g
180 mm f/5.6	13×18 cm/5×7"	276 mm				64	64	64					70 mm	M 67×0.75	60 mm	177 mm	60.5 mm	410 g
210 mm f/5.6	13×18 cm/5×7"	316 mm				64	64	64					75 mm	M 72×0.75	65 mm	202 mm	69.5 mm	490 g
240 mm f/5.6	13×18 cm/5×7"	372 mm							64	64	64		90 mm	M 86×1	80 mm	230 mm	82 mm	980 g
300 mm f/5.6	18×24 cm/8×10"	448 mm							64	64	64		105 mm	M 100×1	80 mm	277 mm	98.5 mm	1210 g
360 mm f/6.8	18×24 cm/8×10"	468 mm							64	64	64		117 mm	M 112×1.5	80 mm	330 mm	120 mm	1560 g
Apo-Grandagon																		
35 mm f/4.5	6×12 cm	125 mm	22		22								70 mm	M 67×0.75	60 mm	43.2 mm	55.7 mm	300 g
45 mm f/4.5	6×12 cm	131 mm	32		32								70 mm	M 67×0.75	60 mm	55.5 mm	65.3 mm	350 g
55 mm f/4.5	9×12 cm/4×5"	163 mm	45	45	45								70 mm	M 67×0.75	60 mm	67.6 mm	69.8 mm	400 g
Grandagon-N																		
65 mm f/4.5	9×12 cm/4×5"	170 mm	45	45	45								60 mm	M 58×0.75	51 mm	70 mm	63.5 mm	330 g
75 mm f/4.5	9×12 cm/4×5"	195 mm	45	45	45								70 mm	M 67×0.75	60 mm	82 mm	73.5 mm	440 g
75 mm f/6.8	9×12 cm/4×5"	187 mm	45	45	45								60 mm	M 58×0.75	54 mm	79 mm	65 mm	340 g
90 mm f/4.5	13×18 cm/5×7"	236 mm				45	45	45					85 mm	M 82×0.75	70 mm	98 mm	88.5 mm	700 g
90 mm f/6.8	9×12 cm/4×5"	221 mm	45	45	45								70 mm	M 67×0.75	60 mm	94 mm	78.5 mm	460 g
115 mm f/6.8	13×18 cm/5×7"	291 mm				45	45	45					85 mm	M 82×0.75	70 mm	121 mm	93 mm	740 g
155 mm f/6.8	18×24 cm/8×10"	382 mm				45	45	64					110 mm	M 105×1	90 mm	169 mm	133.5 mm	1460 g
Apo-Ronar																		
240 mm f/ 9.0	9×12 cm/4×5"	212 mm				90	64	90					51 mm	M 49×0.75	37.5 mm	235 mm	41.5 mm	260 g
300 mm f/ 9.0	13×18 cm/5×7"	264 mm				90	90	90					51 mm	M 49×0.75	37.5 mm	296 mm	47.5 mm	270 g
360 mm f/ 9.0	13×18 cm/5×7"	318 mm							90	90	90		60 mm	M 58×0.75	58 mm	351 mm	59 mm	550 g
480 mm f/ 9.0	18×24 cm/8×10"	396 mm											70 mm	M 67×0.75	60 mm	463 mm	67 mm	850 g
480 mm f/11.0	18×24 cm/8×10"	396 mm											70 mm	M 67×0.75	60 mm	463 mm	67 mm	850 g
Apo-Macro-Sironar																		
120 mm f/5.6	9×12 cm/4×5"	336 mm 1:1	64	45	64								51 mm	M 49×0.75	40.5 mm	115.7 mm	43.8 mm	220 g
180 mm f/5.6	13×18 cm/5×7"	415 mm 1:1				64	64	64					70 mm	M 67×0.75	54 mm	176 mm	61.2 mm	410 g
Apo-Sironar-digital																		
90 mm f/5.6	6×12 cm	140 mm	45		45								70 mm	M 67×0.75	60 mm	93 mm	82 mm	460 g
Imagon																		
200 mm H 5.8	6× 9 cm		Perforated diaphragm									•	55 mm	–	60 mm	216 mm	78 mm	510 g
250 mm H 5.8	9×12 cm/4×5"											•	55 mm	–	60 mm	276 mm	84.5 mm	520 g
300 mm H 6.8	13×18 cm/5×7"											•	55 mm	–	60 mm	332 mm	91 mm	540 g

Data sheets on the Horseman-SS, Noble-Prestor and Copal-Press shutters can be obtained from your dealer or directly from Rodenstock.

Image Circles and Shift limits

Lens		Recommended working aperture	field angle	Image circle \varnothing at 1:∞	Shift limits in mm at 1: ∞ and recommended working aperture								
			at recommended working aperture	6x7 cm	6x9 cm	6x12 cm	9x12 cm	4x5"	13x18 cm	5x7"	18x24 cm	8x10"	
Apo-Sironar-N	100 mm f/5.6	11-22	72°	151 mm	39 3633 26	22 13	8 6						
	135 mm f/5.6	16-22	72°	200 mm	66 6262 52	54 39	41 34	32 28					
	150 mm f/5.6	16-22	72°	214 mm	73 6970 59	63 46	49 42	41 36	3 2	4 3			
	180 mm f/5.6	22-32	72°	262 mm	98 9495 84	90 71	76 67	68 62	38 30	39 31			
	210 mm f/5.6	22-32	72°	301 mm	119 114116 104	111 91	98 88	90 83	63 52	64 53	11 8		
	240 mm f/5.6	22-32	72°	350 mm			137 116	124 113	116 108	92 79	92 79	46 37	28 23
	300 mm f/5.6	32-45	72°	425 mm						134 118	134 119	93 79	77 67
	360 mm f/6.8	32-45	64°	435 mm						139 123	140 124	99 84	83 72

Apo-Sironar-S	135 mm f/5.6	11-22	75°	208 mm	↕ 70 66 ↗ 66 56 ↗ 59 43 ↗ 45 38 ↗ 37 32							
	150 mm f/5.6	11-22	75°	231 mm	↕ 82 78 ↗ 79 68 ↗ 72 55 ↗ 59 51 ↗ 50 45 ↗ 16 12 ↗ 17 13							
	180 mm f/5.6	16-32	75°	276 mm	↕ 105 101 ↗ 103 91 ↗ 97 78 ↗ 84 74 ↗ 76 69 ↗ 47 38 ↗ 48 39							
	210 mm f/5.6	16-32	75°	316 mm	↕ 126 121 ↗ 124 112 ↗ 120 99 ↗ 106 96 ↗ 98 91 ↗ 72 60 ↗ 73 61 ↗ 23 18 ↗ 8 2							
	240 mm f/5.6	16-32	75°	372 mm		↕ 149 127 ↗ 135 124 ↗ 128 120 ↗ 104 90 ↗ 105 91 ↗ 60 50 ↗ 43 36						
	300 mm f/5.6	22-45	75°	448 mm					↕ 146 130 ↗ 147 131 ↗ 106 92 ↗ 91 79			
	360 mm f/6.8	22-45	68°	468 mm					↕ 157 140 ↗ 158 141 ↗ 118 102 ↗ 102 90			

Apo-Grandagon	35 mm f/4.5	8-11	120°	125 mm	↕ 24 22 ↗ 20 15 ↗ 1 1							
	45 mm f/4.5	8-11	110°	131 mm	↕ 28 25 ↗ 24 19 ↗ 4 2							
	55 mm f/4.5	8-11	110°	163 mm	↕ 46 42 ↗ 40 32 ↗ 30 19 ↗ 16 13 ↗ 7 5							

Grandagon-N	65 mm f/4.5	16-22	105°	170 mm	↕ 50 46 ↗ 45 36 ↗ 36 23 ↗ 22 17 ↗ 12 10							
	75 mm f/4.5	16-22	105°	195 mm	↕ 63 59 ↗ 59 49 ↗ 51 36 ↗ 38 31 ↗ 29 25							
	75 mm f/6.8	16-22	102°	187 mm	↕ 59 55 ↗ 55 45 ↗ 46 32 ↗ 33 27 ↗ 24 20							
	90 mm f/4.5	16-22	105°	236 mm	↕ 85 80 ↗ 81 71 ↗ 75 58 ↗ 62 53 ↗ 54 48 ↗ 20 16 ↗ 21 16							
	90 mm f/6.8	22-32	102°	221 mm	↕ 77 73 ↗ 73 63 ↗ 67 50 ↗ 53 45 ↗ 45 40 ↗ 9 7 ↗ 10 7							
	115 mm f/6.8	22-32	104°	291 mm	↕ 113 109 ↗ 111 99 ↗ 106 86 ↗ 92 82 ↗ 85 77 ↗ 57 47 ↗ 58 47 ↗ 3 2							
	155 mm f/6.8	22-32	102°	382 mm		↕ 154 132 ↗ 141 129 ↗ 133 125 ↗ 110 95 ↗ 111 96 ↗ 67 55 ↗ 50 42						

Apo-Ronar	240 mm f/9.0	22	48°	212 mm	↕ 72 68 ↗ 68 58 ↗ 61 45 ↗ 48 41 ↗ 39 35							
	300 mm f/9.0	22	48°	264 mm	↕ 99 95 ↗ 96 85 ↗ 91 72 ↗ 78 68 ↗ 70 63 ↗ 40 32 ↗ 40 32							
	360 mm f/9.0	22-32	48°	318 mm	↕ 127 122 ↗ 125 113 ↗ 120 100 ↗ 107 96 ↗ 99 92 ↗ 73 61 ↗ 74 62 ↗ 24 19 ↗ 4 3							
	480 mm f/9.0	22-32	46°	396 mm		↕ 162 139 ↗ 148 137 ↗ 141 132 ↗ 118 103 ↗ 118 104 ↗ 75 63 ↗ 59 50						
	480 mm f/11.0	22-32	46°	396 mm		↕ 162 139 ↗ 148 137 ↗ 141 132 ↗ 118 103 ↗ 118 104 ↗ 75 63 ↗ 59 50						

	Scale	Recomm. working aperture		Shift limits in mm with horizontal format and recommended working aperture									
				3x3 cm	4.5x6 cm	6x6 cm	6x7 cm	6x9 cm	6x12 cm				
Apo-Macro-Sironar	120 mm f/5.6	1:5 8-11	70°	201 mm	↕ 85 85 ↗ 76 71 ↗ 69 69 ↗ 67 63 ↗ 64 56 ↗ 55 35 ↗ 42 35 ↗ 33 29								
		1:1 8-11	60°	277 mm	↕ 123 123 ↗ 115 109 ↗ 108 108 ↗ 106 101 ↗ 104 95 ↗ 98 79 ↗ 85 75 ↗ 77 70								
		2:1 8-11	55°	374 mm	↕ 172 172 ↗ 146 158 ↗ 157 157 ↗ 156 151 ↗ 155 145 ↗ 150 128 ↗ 137 126 ↗ 129 121								
	180 mm f/5.6	1:5 16-22	70°	302 mm	↕ 119 114 ↗ 116 104 ↗ 112 91 ↗ 98 88 ↗ 90 83 ↗ 63 52 ↗ 64 53 ↗ 11 9								
		1:1 16-22	60°	415 mm	↕ 177 171 ↗ 174 161 ↗ 171 148 ↗ 158 146 ↗ 150 142 ↗ 128 113 ↗ 129 113 ↗ 87 73 ↗ 70 61								
		2:1 16-22	55°	562 mm	↕ 250 245 ↗ 249 235 ↗ 247 222 ↗ 233 220 ↗ 226 216 ↗ 206 188 ↗ 207 189 ↗ 170 152 ↗ 155 141								

		Recommended working aperture			Shift limits in mm with horizontal format, scale 1: ∞ at f/11							
					3x3 cm	4.5x6 cm	6x6 cm	6x7 cm	6x9 cm	6x12 cm		
Apo-Sironar-digital	90 mm f/5.6	8-11	76°	140 mm	↕ ⁵³ ₅₃	↗ ⁴³ ₃₉	↗ ³⁶ ₃₆	↗ ³³ ₃₀	↗ ²⁹ ₂₄	↗ ¹³ ₇		